THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT [DR. (SHRIMATI) RITA VERMA]: (a) to (g) According to the information furnished by the University Grants Commission, the UGC had constituted Curriculum Development Committees (CDCs) to frame the Model Curricula at under-graduate and post-graduate level in various disciplines of 32 subjects of Science, Humanities and Social Sciences. These Committees consisted of various subject experts, academicians and university teachers, etc. This was done with a view to facilitate the universities to update their existing curricula by providing them inputs to take care of fast paced development in the knowledge of the subject concerned. The UGC has since forwarded the model curriculum to universities for their guidance. Universities have the option to adopt the model curricula either in *toto* or adopt it after making necessary amendments or adopt it after necessary deletion/ addition or adopt it after making any change whatsoever, which the university may consider necessary. It is thus clear that intention of UGC is not to enforce uniform curriculum throughout the universities. There is no question of infringement in the freedom of pluralistic society and federal structure.

Commissioner for NCW

354. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Commission for Women has demanded/ requested for appointment of Commissioner for the Commission;

(b) if so, whether any decision has been taken in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT [DR. (SHRIMATI) RITA VERMA]: (a) to (d) The National Perspective Plan for Women (NPP) formulated in 1988 for the period 1988—2000 had recommended the creation of a special division to be designated as 'Commissioner for Women's Rights' in the Department of Women and Child Development for enforcement of law for women. However, the National Commission for Women (NCW), was constituted

subsequently on 31.1.92 under the National Commission for women Act, 1990 which has the mandate, *inter-alia*, to review and monitor the implementation of the Constitutional and legal safeguards available for women, to take up cases of violation of the Constitutional and legal provisions relating to women with the appropriate authorities and take *suo moto* notice of matters relating to deprivation of women's rights, non-implementation of laws to provide protection of women and non-compliance of policy, guidelines and regulations aimed at protecting the rights of women. The functions of the Commissioner for Women's Rights recommended by the NPP are already being discharged by the National Commission for Women. However now, a proposal has been sent by the National Commission for Women to create a post of Commissioner of Women's Rights within the Commission which is under consideration.

Annual General Meeting of NCERT

†355. SHRI MOTILAL VORA:
SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY:
SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 38th annual General Meeting of the NCERT was held on May 26, 2002; if so, Education Ministers of different States who were invited;

(b) the agenda of the meeting and the business transacted:

(c) whether Education Minister of 16 States walked out from the meeting; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT [DR. (SHRIMATI) RITA VERMA]: (a) Yes, Sir. The Education Ministers of Andhra pradesh, Arunachal pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Goa, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya pradesh, Maharashtra, Manipur Meghalya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Orissa, Punjab, Rajashtan, Sikkim, Tamil Nadu, Tripura, West Bengal, Uttar Pradesh, Delhi, Podicherry, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand and Uttaranchal Pradesh were invited.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.